

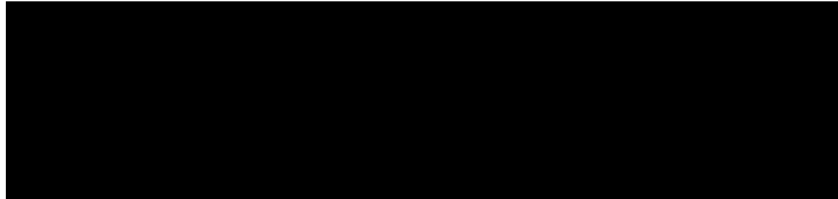
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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090  
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship  
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Date: Office: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER

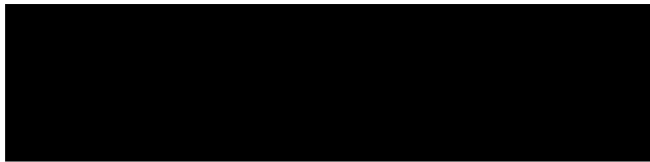
**JUL 27 2011**

IN RE: Petitioner:  
Beneficiary:



PETITION: Immigrant petition for Alien Worker as a Member of the Professions Holding an Advanced Degree or an Alien of Exceptional Ability Pursuant to Section 203(b)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(2)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Enclosed please find the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All of the documents related to this matter have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Please be advised that any further inquiry that you might have concerning your case must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied by us in reaching our decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. The specific requirements for filing such a request can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. All motions must be submitted to the office that originally decided your case by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$630. Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires that any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen.

Thank you,

Perry Rhew  
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The employment-based immigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner is a manufacturer of automated test equipment. It seeks to employ the beneficiary permanently in the United States as a Senior Engineer (Technical Solutions) pursuant to section 203(b)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(2). The petition is accompanied by an ETA Form 9089, Application for Permanent Employment Certification, which was certified by the Department of Labor.

The director determined that the ETA Form 9089 failed to demonstrate that the job requires a professional holding an advanced degree and, therefore, the beneficiary cannot be found qualified for classification as a member of the professions holding an advanced degree. 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(k)(4). The director denied the petition accordingly.

The record shows that the appeal is properly filed and timely. The procedural history in this case is documented by the record and incorporated into the decision. Further elaboration of the procedural history will be made only as necessary.

In pertinent part, section 203(b)(2) of the Act provides immigrant classification to members of the professions holding advanced degrees or their equivalent and whose services are sought by an employer in the United States. An advanced degree is a United States academic or professional degree or a foreign equivalent degree above the baccalaureate level. 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(k)(2). The regulation further states: "A United States baccalaureate degree or a foreign equivalent degree followed by at least five years of progressive experience in the specialty shall be considered the equivalent of a master's degree. If a doctoral degree is customarily required by the specialty, the alien must have a United States doctorate or a foreign equivalent degree." *Id.*

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(k)(4) states in pertinent part that "[t]he job offer portion of an individual labor certification, Schedule A application, or Pilot Program application must demonstrate that the job requires a professional holding an advanced degree or the equivalent of an alien of exceptional ability."

The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. See *Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004). The AAO considers all pertinent evidence in the record, including new evidence properly submitted upon appeal.

Here, the Form I-140 was filed on July 24, 2007. On Part 2.d. of the Form I-140, the petitioner indicated that it was filing the petition for a member of the professions holding an advanced degree or an alien of exceptional ability.

On appeal, counsel argues that "employment-based third preference (EB-3) was requested in an Addendum to Form I-140". Counsel states that reference "was also made to the Addendum of Page

1, Part 2 of the I-140 Immigrant Petition.” Additionally, the beneficiary possesses the equivalent of a Masters degree.

In this case, the job offer portion of the ETA Form 9089 indicates that the minimum level of education required for the position is a Bachelor's degree and three years experience in the job offered. Accordingly, the job offer portion of the ETA Form 9089 does not require a professional holding an advanced degree. However, the petitioner requested classification as a member of the professions holding an advanced degree and attempted to change this request to that of a skilled worker or professional on appeal. A petitioner may not make material changes to a petition in an effort to make a deficient petition conform to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services requirements. *See Matter of Izummi*, 22 I&N Dec. 169, 176 (Assoc. Comm. 1988).

It is further noted that petitioners may not request multiple or alternative petition classifications on the Form I-140. If the petitioner had wanted U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to consider the petition as one filed for a skilled worker or professional, it should have ticked box 2.e. and paid the necessary fee. Instead, the petitioner chose to seek classification for an advanced degree professional, which is not supported by the terms of the ETA Form 9089.

The evidence submitted does not establish that the ETA Form 9089 requires a professional holding an advanced degree and the appeal must be dismissed.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The petitioner has not met that burden.

**ORDER:** The appeal is dismissed.